AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the Abstract with the following replacement Abstract:

A paint roller (10) has a paint applicator (12), two holder mounts and an applicator holder (14). The paint applicator (12) has a cylindrical outer surface (16) and two opposite ends (18a,18b). The two holder mounts, respectively associated with the two opposite ends (18a,18b), each has a base surface (24). A journal (26) protrudes from the base surface (24) in a direction away from the paint applicator (12). The journal (26) has a holder abutment with a planar abutment surface (30) substantially aligned on a common plane. The applicator holder (14) has a handle (40) and a fork (42) having opposite sides (44,46). Each of the opposite sides (44,46) has a journal engagement portion (52,54).

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 28, with the following rewritten paragraph:

However, rotation of the roller assembly of US Patent No. 3,588,264 can be a problem as the end-closure members contacts the entire surface of sides of the forked handle. Consequently, frictional resistance between the sides and the end-closure members impedes the rotation of the roller assembly to some extent. Furthermore, any unevenness of the surface of the end closure members also impedes the rotation. Such unevenness is difficult to avoid or eliminate in mass production of the end-closure members or the forked handle. In addition, the paint rollers of the prior art all require disassembly or detachment of the roller, or the use of a funnel to fill the reservoir.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Therefore, a need clearly exists for a container-type paint roller that enables easier rotation of a paint applicator by reducing frictional resistance between rotating elements. Such a container-type paint roller should allow easy pouring of paint and have covers that secure tightly to the paint applicator or an applicator holder without, or at least alleviating, undesired dislodging of such covers during use.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 16, and the paragraph beginning on page 2 line 30 with the following single rewritten paragraph:

Accordingly, in one aspect, the present invention provides a paint roller comprising:

a paint applicator having a cylindrical outer surface and two opposite ends;

and

two holder mounts, respectively associated with said two opposite ends, each of the holder mounts having a base surface and comprising:

a journal, protruding from the base surface in a direction away from the paint applicator, the journal comprising at least one holder abutment, each of the at least one holder abutment having a planar abutment surface substantially aligned on a common plane wherein the total area of the planar abutment surface for each of the journals is smaller than an axial cross-section of each of the holder mounts, the smaller total area achieved by a plurality of arc-shaped members disposed around the journal.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The holder mount 20 has a base surface 24 and comprises a journal 26 that protrudes from the base surface 24 in a direction away from the paint applicator 12. The journal 26 comprises a holder abutment 28 having a planar abutment surface 30. The journal 26 further comprises a hollow cylindrical protrusion 32 forming a channel 34 through which paint is channeled for storage within the paint applicator 12. In the preferred embodiment of the invention, the holder abutment 28 forms a ring surrounding the hollow cylindrical protrusion 32. An inner wall 36 of the channel 34 has a circumferential ridge 38. For the journal 26, the planar abutment surface 30 has a total area that is smaller than an axial cross-section of the holder mount 20.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 16, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The applicator holder 14 has a handle 40 and a fork 42 having opposite sides 44,46. Each of the opposite sides 44,46 has, respectively, a journal engagement portion 48,50. Each of the journal engagement portions 48,50 comprises, respectively, a loop 52,54. The loop 54 couples to the hollow cylindrical protrusion 32, and the loop 52 couples to a cylindrical protrusion (not shown) at the opposite end 18a, to enable rotation of the paint applicator 12 during use.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 10, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In FIG. 6, a side view of an end portion of the holder mount 100 from a direction indicated by an arrow 114 shows the planar abutment surfaces 112a,112b,112d of, respectively, the arc-shaped members 108a,108b,108d. The planar abutment surfaces 112a,112b,112d are substantially aligned to each other on a common plane 116. Although not shown, the planar abutment surface 112c is also similarly aligned. In this alternate embodiment, the common plane 116 is planarly parallel to a base plane 118 of the base surface 106 and spaced apart by the thickness of the four arc-shaped members 108a,108b,108c,108d. Accordingly, these arc-shaped members reduce friction by reducing the area of contact between these elements during use.